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ABSTRACT

Although there are many content-rich resource sites for elementary and middle school students on the World Wide Web, finding such sites can often be difficult. This ERIC Digest describes K-8 curriculum related Web sites that will be of interest to students, teachers, parents, and librarians. The following types of sites are listed: collections of sites; science-related sources; math; social studies; current events; literature; reference materials online; search directories for kids; Web sources for information on new sites for kids; and listservs for information on new sites for kids. Also included are two books useful for finding more K-8 Internet Sites. (AEF)

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ERIC Digest
June 1998

By:

Blythe A. Bennett

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DIGEST

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Internet Resources for K-8 Students

by Blythe A. Bennett

Although there are many content-rich resource sites for elementary and middle school students on the World Wide Web, finding such sites can often be difficult. This Digest describes K-8 curriculum related Web sites that will be of interest to students, teachers, parents, and librarians.

Collections of Sites

Berits Best Sites for Children
One of the oldest and most reliable lists of sites for primary grades. Compiled by a librarian.
✎ http://db.cochran.com/li_toc:theoPage.db

BJ Pinchbeck's Homework Helper
Compiled by a middle school student who understands the reference needs of his fellow students.
✎ http://tristate.pgh.net/~pinch13/

Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators—Home Page
A popular site for teachers. Compiled by a school librarian who has also created a collection for students.
✎ http://www.capecod.net/schrockguide/

Kid Info/School Subjects
Another student-created site. Arranged by subject area, and linked to many of the best educational sites online.
✎ http://www.kidinfo.com/School_Subjects.html

KidsConnect Favorite Sites
Compiled by the KidsConnect team of volunteer cybrarians. Often used by KidsConnect in responding to student questions.
✎ http://www.ala.org/ICONN/kcfavorites.html

KidsConnect Frequently Asked Questions
Collections of questions that are frequently asked of KidsConnect and in school and public libraries around the world. Includes science fair resources and animal web sites.
✎ http://www.ala.org/ICONN/kcfaq.html

700+ Great Sites from ALA
Compiled by members of the American Library Association. For students, teachers, librarians, and parents.
✎ http://www.ala.org/parentspage/greatsites/

Science Related Sources

ASK-A-SCIENTIST Archive
Although the archives are aging, the information is outstanding. Covers many science topics including astronomy, biology, and chemistry.
✎ http://newton.dep.anl.gov/newton/askasci/askasci.html

How Things Work
A physics professor's compilation of his students' frequently asked questions. A rich resource for students explaining why and how things work.
✎ http://landau1.phys.virginia.edu/Education/Teaching/HowThingsWork/

MAD Scientist Network
Great "library" collections. Search the archives for previously asked questions. Try the labs!
✎ http://www.madsci.org/

NASA
Visit this site when you have a question or research topic about space. Link to pages about Mars, the space shuttle, and the MIR space station. Search NASA's hot topics.
✎ http://www.nasa.gov/

Neuroscience for Kids
Resources about the brain and spinal cord. Written with kids in mind.
✎ http://weber.u.washington.edu/~chudler/neurok.html

Nine Planets: Multimedia Tour of the Solar System
Images and information about the solar system, planets and their moons, and other heavenly bodies.
✎ http://seds.lpl.arizona.edu/nineplanets/nineplanets/nineplanets.html

Partnership for A Drug-Free America
Accurate, authoritative resources for information about illegal drugs and their consequences.
✎ http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/

Science Fair Project Guide
A collection of sites, resources, and project ideas for science fairs. From The Internet Public Library.
✎ http://www.ipl.org/youth/projectguide/

Sea World/Busch Gardens Animal Resources
Reliable information about marine and land animals and conservation.
✎ http://www.seaworld.org/infobook.html

Smithsonian Institution Frequently Asked Questions
Answers to students' questions about common research topics including science and social science.
✎ http://www.si.edu/resource/faq/start.htm

United States Geological Survey
News, fact sheets, and other resources about biology, geology, mapping and water.
✎ http://info.er.usgs.gov/

VolcanoWorld
The best resource for volcano information on the Web. Images, answers to questions, and factual data from real volcanologists. Written for students and teachers.
✎ http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/

Math

Math Forum
The best collection of math-related materials online. Check for math resources by subject for your special interest. Search the archives to see if your question has already been answered. Special sections for students and for teachers.
✎ http://forum.swarthmore.edu/

History/Social Studies

American Civil War Homepage
A collection of online resources about the Civil War. Includes graphics, letters, information on specific battles, and much more.
✎ http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html

American Memory from the Library of Congress
Browse or search for events, people, places, or time periods in American history. Includes rich visual resources.
✎ http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/

Ancient World Web
Collection of links to sites about ancient civilizations including Aztec and Egyptian. Search by geographical area or subject.
✎ http://www.julen.net/aw/

CIA World Factbook
This site, updated once a year, is one of the most authoritative sites on countries of the world.
✎ http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/nsolo/wfb-all.htm

Encyclopedia Mythica
Mythology and folklore collection. Contains over 4,000 definitions of gods and goddesses, supernatural beings, and legendary creatures and monsters from all over the world.
✎ http://www.pantheon.org/mythica/

POTUS
The Internet Public Library's collection of information about United States presidents. Includes election results, cabinet members, and other presidential facts.
✎ http://www.ipl.org/ref/POTUS/

Today-in-History
Find out what happened on a particular day in history.
✎ http://www.scopesys.com/today/

White House
Link to the White House for Kids. See biographies of U.S. presidents and first families, press releases, and hot topics.
✎ http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Welcome.html

50 States of the United States
Facts about all U.S. states including motto, flag, and song.
✎ http://www.50states.com/

Current Events

CNN Interactive
Read the latest news. Search the archives for information about past events. Choose links to top stories, hot topics, sports, weather, and more.
✎ http://cnn.com/index.html

Literature

Children's Literature Web Guide
Information about book awards, authors, and illustrators. Resources for teachers and parents.
✎ http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/

Learning About the Author and Illustrator Pages
One stop shopping for information about authors and illustrators.
✎ http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/special/kay/author.html

Reference Materials Online

AskA+ Locator
Need to find an expert on a particular subject? The AskA+ Locator will allow you to search for experts by subject area and grade level.
✎ http://www.vrd.org/locator/subject.html

Atlapedia Online
Contains full color physical and political maps as well as key facts and statistics about countries of the world.
✎ http://www.atlapedia.com/index.html

Biography
Search a database of biographies of more than 20,000 notable people. Uses the Cambridge Encyclopedia Database and the Cambridge Dictionary of American Biography.
✎ http://www.biography.com/find/find.html

Britannica Online
Online encyclopedia information as well as links to selected Web sites.
✎ http://www.eb.com:180/

Encarta Online
A concise version of Encarta's CD-ROM. Includes short encyclopedia articles and hot topics.
✎ http://encarta.msn.com/EncartaHome.asp

Information Please Home Page
Ready reference combination. Includes *Information Please Almanac*, *Columbia Encyclopedia*, and *Random House Webster's College Dictionary*.
✎ http://www.infoplease.com/

Research and Web Citations from Nueva School
Helps students with the research process. Shows them how to use search engines effectively and how to create proper bibliographic citations.
✎ http://www.nueva.pvt.k12.ca.us/~debbie/library/research/research.html

Search Directories for Kids

Yahooligans! The Web Guide for Kids
A Web guide for kids from Yahoo.
✎ http://www.yahooligans.com/

Web Sources for Information on New Sites for Kids

Classroom Connect "World Wide Web Gallery" and "Kids Corner"
✎ http://www.classroom.net/

Multimedia Schools "CyberBee" by Linda Joseph
✎ http://www.infotoday.com/MMSchools/MMStocs/MMScybertoc.html

Online-Offline Themes and Resources
✎ http://www.rockhillpress.com/onoff/onoffint.htm

School Library Journal "Surf For: A Thematic Guide to Internet Sites" by Gail Junion-Metz
✎ http://www.bookwire.com/slj/articles.html

Technology Connection "Cool Stuff on the Net" by Sharron McElmeel
✎ http://linworth.com/frame.htm

Listservs for Information on New Sites for Kids

BlueWebN
✎ http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/bluewebn

Kids Report
✎ http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/KIDS/index.html

Books Useful for Finding More K-8 Internet Sites

Polly, J.A. (1997). *Internet kids & family yellow pages.* Berkeley, CA: Osborne McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 0-07-882340-4

Miller, E.B., (1997). *The Internet resource directory for K-12 teachers and librarians.* Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, Inc. ISBN: 1-56308-617-4 (ED 413 882)

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